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The Prospect.

After the burden and heat of the day.
The starry calm of night;
After the rough and toilsome way,
A sleep in the robe of white.

Oh, sweet is the slumber wherewith the King
Hath caused the weary to rest;
For, sleeping, they hear the angels sing.
They lean on the Master's breast.
—J. K. CLARK.

A Little Opening.

A workman one time had occasion to make a small opening from a dark room through the roof over it, to have a point to measure from in making desired improvements. The opening made in the roof was no larger than the point of a lead pencil, yet the sun shone through it, and a wonderful influence was exerted in dispelling the gloom that reigned in the room. It men were confined in that place as prisoners, the little opening would be to them a star of comfort: evidence to them that the world without is not all darkness, and it would inspire them with hopes of enjoying complete light after punishment is finished.

Light is certainly a wonderful thing. It is penetrating and purifying to a great degree. It is always on the search for little crevices where it can enter and scatter darkness; where there is plenty of light impurity cannot dwell; light causes the world of vegetation to spring from the bosom of the earth, and bring forth flowers and seed; light is a panacea for the thousand ills that afflict the human family; light is necessary to all life.

There are two classes of light which men are peculiarly interested in, and both are sun—Son—light. The one is the center, and controls the planetary system of this universe; the other is the central figure, and controls the spiritual universe. Man is interested in both. Sunlight drives away the darkness that settles over one portion of the earth when the great orb is on its mission elsewhere, and enables man to follow the pursuits of happiness: Son-light drives away the darkness of bigotry, ignorance and superstition, barbarism and idolatry, and enables man to view the condition of his soul. Sunlight is indispensable to physical health and happiness; and the man who excludes himself from it, takes away the greatest source of happiness and comfort that is open to him; and if he follows the customs of profusion and luxury and shuts it out of his residence, he prepares for himself a den of poisonous atmosphere, and fills his body with germs of disease, and he becomes pale, foul and filthy: Son-light is absolutely essential to spiritual health and the would be lover of God, who closes the little opening through which he obtains his supply of heavenly light, and receives strength by it to stand the storms that gather on the seas of sin and sweep over the region of mortality, will soon become corrupt in heart, foul in morals and filthy in conversation. Sunlight causes the earthly plant to gather sustenance from the earth and build it into its own body, and into flowers, and fruit which satisfy the seeker after the

beautiful in nature and pleasure of the appetite: Son light gives to the spiritual plant the essential part to make it strong and yield in abundance the fragrance of peace, the flowers of truth, the fruits of righteousness.

May you ever have your face turned toward the little opening through which divine truth shines into your heart, and absorbs the ray of glory that will guide you to the better country, where eternal and unshadowed light fills all visible space, and stands as an impenetrable barrier against impurity, foulness, corruption, disease and death! The fragrance of unperishable flowers will fill the land—God will be there!

Love the light; and love it well—men love darkness, because their deeds are evil. Ed.

The Cry of the Perishing.

The No-Church is the largest on earth. It numbers three-fourths of the human race. It is marching on, while I write, a thousand millions strong. Imagination staggers under such facts. Suppose this unspeakable army were to file before you at the rate of one a minute; it would be 5884 A. D. when the last man drew up, walking twelve hours a day; in a year, a quarter of a million, and in forty years ten millions would have passed you, leaving 990 millions yet to come. You would have to stand on that spot 3,960 years to see the rear of that prodigious host. All these are now living and in a few years will be dead, having never heard so much as there was a Jesus. This, after eighteen centuries of the Cross! Each of them is a human being, I suppose? Yes. According to your creed, damned at death? Yes. Are you a Christian? Yes. And not give even a passing thought to those poor, fate-crushed pilgrims, Christless and weary, trudging out into the great night? What! grudge the coin to your mission collector; spent all on your own, dear, precious darling self; God help you, brother. You shall awake yet, like Jonah, and go down to God's school in the belly of hell, to learn by misery what mercy means. Oh, sleek, comfortable, well-bolstered Christians, go weep and howl. Your gold and silver is rusted, and the rust of it shall eat your flesh as fire. Ye soft-cushioned, self-loving, select souls, your purgatory comes. In heaven's name fling off your lethargy, and hear the cry of the perishing! In the name of this Niagara of humanity, plunging over to the abyss, awake! We are our brother's keeper or his killer.—G. GORDON McLEOD.

Pres. Cleveland has rented pews in two different churches in Washington. This is a great disappointment to a large portion of church-goers at that place. They will not know when Sunday morning comes to which of the churches to go to see the president. To those who go for a more sacred purpose, it will make no difference.

The Religious World.

The New York Legislature is still wrestling with the Freedom of Worship Bill.

A Jewish priest recently poisoned himself to death in Wilkesbarre, Pa.

The Revised Luther Bible has not yet received official sanction and hence is used in schools and churches in Germany.

A fund of \$5,000 has been raised to support Francis Murphy, in Pittsburg as a minister of a "Church of Gospel Temperance."

The highest salary paid to a Connecticut Congregational minister is \$6,000 and the lowest is \$400; the average in the State is \$1,300.

The International Sabbath school committee will hold its next meeting in Baltimore, Apr. 14th, 1886. The S. S. lessons for next year will soon be published.

Rev. John H. Munsell, pastor of the Evangelical Congregational Church, in Schenectady, New York, has engaged a brass band to play regularly at the Sunday service in his church.

Though M. Rabinowitch, the Jewish reformer in Southern Russia, has not been assassinated, as was reported, he has been bitterly persecuted by the orthodox Jews, compelled to leave his residence, has lost his clients as a lawyer, and is deprived of his means of subsistence.

An organization was effected by a number of young men recently in an eastern city, and they named their Society, the "White Cross." The following is the society pledge, which, many, who even profess to be Christians, could put into practice with profit.

I promise by the help of God, to treat all women with respect, and to endeavor to protect them from wrong and degradation; to endeavor to put down all indecent language and coarse jests; to maintain the law of purity as equally binding upon men and women; to endeavor to spread these principles among my companions, and to try and help my younger brothers; to use every possible means to fulfill the command, "Keep thyself pure."

Since President Cleveland's clear and positive declaration that the Government will strictly enforce the extant laws against polygamy, and other evils prevalent in Utah, there has been a decided weakening of the too long defiant attitude of the Mormon leaders. Several of the law-breaking leaders have even fled from their posts so boastfully held in the past with the greatest impunity, and are in hiding. May we not hope that the beginning of the end of the Mormon disgrace, that had been allowed to grow to such dangerous proportions, is at hand? A few years of firm and courageous enforcement of law may not yet be too late to rid our country of this dark blot on its honor. A few years more of cowardly indifference might have made it too late.—MORAVIAN.

A new translation of the whole Bible is to be made into the dialect understood by the common people of Brittany.

The Roman Catholic church dioceses of Massachusetts, under the direction of the Bishop, will hereafter sell seats at every mass. Free seats will be given to those too poor to pay, and ushers will protect those who do pay.

The Presbyterians are stronger numerically in ministers than the Roman Catholics in this country. The Catholic Directory gives the number of their clergy 7,118. The number of ministers in all divisions of the Presbyterian Church, North and South United and Reformed is reported to be 10,029.

Some twenty Warwickshire clergymen of the Church of England have issued a strong protest against horse-racing. They stated that, in their opinion, horse-racing and steeple-chases, as at present conducted, are demoralizing in their tendency and degrading in their influence. As ministers of the Gospel of Christ they feel it their bounden duty to protest against them.

The General Association of Congregational churches of Massachusetts voted at last annual meeting to advise "each church to take a religious census, and to make a systematic visitation of its surrounding community, with special reference to the neglected and foreign-born population." The canvass has been made in several places, and in others it is in progress. The discoveries are in some cases surprising.

The Dissenters in Sweden are now making their influence felt in politics also. Among the members of the new Diet there is one Methodist and two Baptists. The former, the editor, P. J. M. Erickson, introduced two measures, one looking to the establishment of absolute religious freedom, the other, to the prohibition of the sale of intoxicating liquor. One of the Baptists Dr. Erik Nystrom, moved the abrogation of the compulsory oath, and the substitution, in certain cases, of an affirmation instead of said oath.

It is due Miss Frances E. Willard that the paper in her own town should make a correction of the ridiculous telegram flying through the Associated Press the past week with the statement that she communicated to the Alton Presbytery at Hillsboro, Ill., a "revelation" concerning its duty on the question of woman suffrage. Miss Willard promptly denied this allegation in the *Chicago Inter-Ocean*, she not having directly or indirectly addressed the organization referred to on this or any other subject. The telegram must have had its origin in mistaken identity or malicious misrepresentation, and we ask our journalistic friends to make the *amende honorable* at once.—THE INDEX, EVANSTON, (near Chicago) ILL., Apr. 18, 1885.

To Sisters S. N. Snader and Daughter Lottie and Son Walter, of Uvilla, W. Va.

DEAR SISTERS AND BROTHER IN CHRIST: I have just been reminded, through a reference to you in sister Laura Grosnickle's communication, in *EVANGELIST*, that it is a duty as well as a great pleasure to me to write to you and give a word of encouragement.

I often think of you, in your isolation from the Church of the Brethren, in Washington Co., Md. Had I remained to labor in that part of the church where you have your membership, I should have continued my efforts to have you live in closer proximity to the regular places of worship. This would be desirable for your spiritual enjoyment in church work; for I know you all love to work in your allotted sphere, such as the Sunday school, social, praise and prayer meetings, and much would you prefer to put forth your efforts among the members of the Brethren Church than among those with whom there is not the same tie of spiritual kinship. I shall long remember the pleasant meetings in the school house on the hill, where your sainted mother with yourself and your good neighbors of various other denominations, gave me inspiring audiences. Not yet a year has elapsed since that last meeting in Jefferson county, Va., when it was our good pleasure and happy privilege to go with you, brother Walter and sister Lottie, down amid the cedar grove, into the water for Christian baptism. It was a happy day to you both, as well as to your mother and grandmother. I perceived that even your associates were impressed with seriousness, and I think I saw the congratulations of some extended to you upon the happy change in your life; and now I see that your younger sisters have decided to follow your worthy example. Although I do not now remember their names, yet I call to mind very distinctly that I asked them whether they did not also love Jesus well enough to soon follow the worthy example of the older brother and sister. I had an affirmative answer, and now, perhaps, before you read this letter, you are in the kingdom—by virtue of your being born of water and the Spirit. The Lord help you to be faithful until the end, so you may be crowned with life eternal, and at last meet in Heaven with the dear father, grandfather and sister gone before.

I am very busy in my circuit in this part of the Miami Valley. Every week, two, and frequently three sermons, besides protracted efforts. I notice the home brethren of Washington country, Md., have set the 21st of May for their communion service. I am thinking of making a trip East then and if I do I shall certainly be disappointed if I did not meet you at those blessed services. I hope brother J. D. McFaden occasionally goes over to your place to break the bread of life to you and your neighbors. Remember your unworthy servant in your prayers. Fraternally,

Ed. S. MILLER.